

Dear Sirs;

First of all, I have to tell you that never swallow what Koreans say about "Comfort Women, " ! Why do you always ignore what Japanese people say? Are you guys against the Jpanese? If so, all of you are the racists, arn't you???

About the textbook of History-Social Science Grade Ten, you should show us the historical evidence that indicates Comfort Women were sex slaves except Korean Comfort Women's talk! You should make it crystal clear!!

South Korea says, " Comfort women were forced into prostitution as sexual slavery by the Japanese military during the World War II ." But the Japanese government can't find any evidence of it. The above Korean assertion is based on only EX-comfort women's verbal statements. And EX-comfort women's story doesn't have any conclusive evidence, as every time they speak, the story differs. It's unreliable.

On the other hand, we have the report drawn up on comfort women by U.S. Army Forces. If these comfort women had been victims of Japanese military, they wouldn't have complained of not being able to care for all guests, due to a tight schedule!! They wanted much more money, right? The details will be reported later.

What was happened actually? Many Korean women were mobilized to serve as comfort women by Korean agents connected with brothel owners. Some of the women were prostitutes, and some were daughters sold to those Korean agents for money by poor parents. The inducement used by these agents was plenty of money, an opportunity to pay off the family debts, easy work, and so on. On the basis of these false representations many women enlisted for overseas duty and were rewarded with an advance of a few hundred yen. Many brothel owners opened their business next to military gates, because they could make more money. The then Japanese authorities used to punish the brutal Korean agents, which appeared in the various newspapers.

The following is the official report by Psychological Warfare Team of OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION Attached to U.S. Army Forces India-Burma Theater;

PREFACE

This report is based on the information obtained from the interrogation of twenty Korean "comfort girls" and two Japanese civilians captured around the tenth of August, 1944 in the mopping up operations after the fall of Myitkyina in Burma. The report shows how the Japanese recruited these Korean "comfort girls", the conditions under which they lived and worked, their relations with and reaction to the Japanese soldier, and their understanding of the military situation.

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS

In Myitkyina the girls were usually quartered in a large two story house (usually a school building)

with a separate room for each girl. There each girl lived, slept, and transacted business.

In Myitkyina their food was prepared by and purchased from the "house master" as they received no regular ration from the Japanese Army. They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received "comfort bags" from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men, and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.

PRIOR SYSTEM

The conditions under which they transacted business were regulated by the Army, and in congested

areas regulations were strictly enforced. The Army found it necessary in congested areas to install a

system of prices, priorities, and schedules for the various units operating in a particular areas. According to interrogations the average system was as follows:

- 1.Soldiers 10AM to 5PM 1.50yen 20 to 30 minutes
- 2.NCOs 5PM to 9PM 3.00yen 30 to 40 minutes
- 3.Officers 9PM to12PM 5.00yen 30 to 40 minutes

The then Japanese Housekeeper's monthly income with a board meal is about 13 yen, so You can see that comfort girls were highly paid.

SCHEDULES

The soldiers often complained about congestion in the houses. In many situations they were not served and had to leave as the army was very strict about overstaying. In order to overcome this problem the Army set aside certain days for certain units.

Usually two men from the unit for the day were stationed at the house to identify soldiers. A roving MP was also on hand to keep order. Following is the schedule used by the "Kyoei" house for the various units of the 18th Division while at Naymyo.

Officers were allowed to come seven nights a week. The girls complained that even with the schedule

congestion was so great that they could not care for all guests, thus causing ill feeling among many of the soldiers.

Soldiers would come to the house, pay the price and get tickets of cardboard about two inches square with the prior on the left side and the name of the house on the other side. Each soldier's

identity or rank was then established after which he "took his turn in line". The girls were allowed

the prerogative of refusing a customer. This was often done if the person were too drunk.

PAY AND LIVING CONDITIONS

The "house master" received fifty to sixty per cent of the girls' gross earnings depending on how much of a debt each girl had incurred when she signed her contract. This meant that in an average month a girl would gross about fifteen hundred yen. She turned over seven hundred and fifty to the "master". Many "masters" made life very difficult for the girls by charging them high prices for food and other articles.

In the latter part of 1943 the Army issued orders that certain girls who had paid their debt

could return home. Some of the girls were thus allowed to return to Korea.

The interrogations further show that the health of these girls was good. They were well supplied

with all types of contraceptives, and often soldiers would bring their own which had been supplied

by the army. They were well trained in looking after both themselves and customers in the matter

of hygiene. A regular Japanese Army doctor visited the houses once a week and any girl found diseased was given treatment, secluded, and eventually sent to a hospital. This same procedure

was carried on within the ranks of the Army itself, but it is interesting to note that a soldier did not lose pay during the period he was confined.

SOLDIERS REACTIONS

The average Japanese soldier is embarrassed about being seen in a "comfort house" according to one of the girls who said, "when the place is packed he is apt to be ashamed if he has to wait in line for his turn". However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place.

All the girls agreed that the worst officers and men who came to see them were those who were drunk and leaving for the front the following day. But all likewise agreed that even though very drunk the Japanese soldier never discussed military matters or secrets with them. Though the girls might start the conversation about some military matter the officer or enlisted man would not talk, but would in fact "scold us for discussing such un-lady like subjects. Even Col.

Maruyama when drunk would never discuss such matters."

The soldiers would often express how much they enjoyed receiving magazines, letters and newspapers from home. They also mentioned the receipt of "comfort bags" filled with canned goods,

magazines, soap, handkerchiefs, toothbrush, miniature doll, lipstick, and wooden clothes.

The lipstick and cloths were feminine and the girls couldn't understand why the people at home were sending such articles. They speculated that the sender could only have had themselves or the "native girls".

The above report is the historical evidence which indicates that Comfort Women were not sex slaves, but highly paid prostitutes!

A long way off,
Saori Asuka